

IIP-109-A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nishide et al.
Serial Number: Unknown
Filed: Concurrently herewith
Group Art Unit: Unknown
Examiner: Unknown
Confirmation Number: Unknown
Title: SEAT POSITION DETECTION UNIT

TRANSMITTAL OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

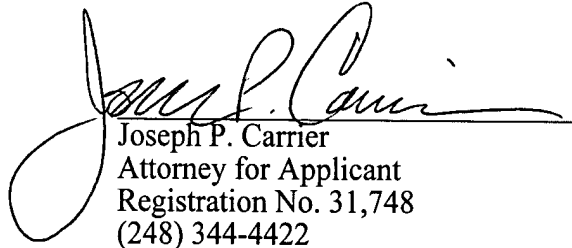
Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the identified application, applicant encloses for filing a certified copy of: Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-255184, filed 30 August 2002, to support applicant's claim for Convention priority under 35 USC §119.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number 21828
Carrier, Blackman & Associates, P.C.
24101 Novi Road, Suite 100
Novi, Michigan 48375
22 August 2003


Joseph P. Carrier
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 31,748
(248) 344-4422

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Certificate EV077537436US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on 22 August 2003.

Dated: 22 August 2003
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Kathryn MacKenzie